Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 42-61 are pending in the application, with claims 42, 52 and 61 being the independent claims. Claims 1-41 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claims 42-61 are sought to be added. Support for new claims 42-61 is found throughout the claims and specification as originally filed.

The amendment to the specification was made to correct a typographical error. SEQ ID NO:7 represents amino acids 98-119 of SEQ ID NO:2, however, there was one amino acid missing from SEQ ID NO:27 (threonine at position 102 of SEQ ID NO:2). Support for the amendment to the specification can be found in Table 1 at page 8.

The specification has been further amended to insert a Sequence Listing. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), the paper copy of the Sequence Listing and the computer readable copy of the Sequence Listing submitted herewith are identical. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(g), this submission includes no new matter.

Thus, these changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

a. Carall

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